

9th EMES INTERNATIONAL TRAINING SCHOOL

**Developing transdisciplinary research capacities to advance
the SE field in the face of multidimensional crises.**

**Exploring the different facets of the social and
solidarity economy and social innovation**

FINAL PROGRAMME

30 June – 4 July 2024 · Trento, Italy

Co-organised by



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EMES and EURICSE, with the support of the ESIC Project, the University of Trento, and the Society for the Advancement of Management Studies jointly organise the 9th EMES International Training School (#9EMESTrainingschool) aimed at researchers at early career levels, PhDs or completing Masters program who are attracted to conduct research in the wide fields of social entrepreneurship, social enterprise, social economy and solidarity economy (the “SE field”).

The #9EMESTrainingschool aims to reinforce knowledge about the social enterprise and social and solidarity economy initiatives and about their potential in a historical moment in which these initiatives are more necessary than ever for their contribution to solving societal challenges. There have been eight successful editions of the EMES Training Schools so far held at the University of Corsica (France) in 2008; Roskilde University (Denmark) in 2010;

University of Trento (Italy) in 2012; West University of Timișoara (Romania) in 2014; Glasgow Caledonian University in Glasgow (UK) in 2016; Aix-Marseille University in Aix-Provence (France) in 2018 and a blended learning format led by University College Cork (Ireland) online in 2020 and face-to-face in Teruel (Spain) in 2021; University of Seville (Spain) in 2022.

The ninth edition will be held at the University of Trento (Italy) on 30 June-4 July 2024 and is organised in partnership with the ESIC project. By joining the Pact for Skills on Proximity and Social Economy, Erasmus + Inno-BLUEPRINT project, the European Social Innovation Campus (ESIC) is at the forefront of the challenge to upskill and reskill 5% of the workforce and entrepreneurs to tackle the green and digital transitions in the social economy by boosting social innovation capacities. The Alliance, a collaborative effort involving 15 partners from 10 European countries, unites educational levels from vocational education and training to higher education, social economy organisations and enterprises from various European countries, and European-level actors.

The 9th EMES Summer School is *in memoriam* of Professor Carlo Borzaga, a world-known and passionate scholar, President Emeritus and founder of Euricse and co-founder of EMES, who passed away a few months ago.

I. DRAFT TRAINING SCHOOL PROGRAMME

Sunday, June 30th

Since 17:00 **Arrival and greetings of participants**

18:30 - 21:00 **Introduction round and welcome cocktail**

There will be almost 100 people participating in this training school. They include your fellow PhD candidates, Early Career Researchers (ECR), faculty body members, practitioners and policymakers.

We will take a good moment to work together and to introduce ourselves!

Take some time to read the “9EMES trainingschool Trainees Directory” that we prepared for participants.

Monday, July 1st

08:30 – 09:00 Opening session

Official welcoming

- **Flavio Deflorian**, Rector, University of Trento, Italy
- **Mario Diani**, President, EURICSE & Professor, University of Trento, Italy
- **Francesca Petrella**, President, EMES & Professor, LEST-Aix-Marseille University, France
- **Niina Karvinen**, ESIC Project Coordinator
- **Francesca Forno**, University of Trento, Italy & Training School Co-chair

Presentation of the international training school dynamics

- **Giulia Galera**, Euricse, Training School Co-chair
- **Rocío Nogales-Muriel**, director of EMES
- **Lucas Olmedo**, Early Career Researchers representative and University College Cork, Ireland

09:00 – 11:00 Parallel work groups - SESSION I

In this first work group meeting, you will be invited to agree on the work dynamics and order for each of the presentations and discussions.

Please refer to the section “Work Groups Composition” at the end of the program to see the trainers and trainees assigned to each group.

11:00 – 11:30 *Coffee break*

11:30 – 13:30 Parallel work groups - SESSION II

13:30 – 15:00 *Lunch*

15:00 – 16:30 Parallel workshops: Methods to analyse the SE field

Workshop A | Analysing the Social Economy from a comparative perspective: critical insights from current research in Europe

Rationale: This session will dwell on the main challenges arising from comparative, quantitative, and qualitative analyses of the social economy. As a concept, developed in the XIX century to bring together cooperatives, mutual aid societies and associations, the social economy is widely recognised in a few EU Member States, particularly in countries where there is a tradition of fruitful interaction between its components, such as in France, Belgium, Portugal and Spain.

Organisations belonging to the social economy exist nonetheless also in countries lacking a social economy tradition and where there is a distance between cooperatives and non-profit organisations, like for instance in Germany and Italy; as a socio-economic field, the social economy is a context-specific and dynamic phenomenon that is creatively shaped by the organisational and legal forms assumed by grassroots organisations, consistent with the legal systems where they operate. This implies that the perimeters of the social economy can vary significantly from country to country, raising such variations methodological issues that need to be addressed.

Key questions include the following:

- 1) What methodological and operational tools can make the representation of the social economy more complete, homogenous, reliable and comparable across studied countries?
- 2) How can quantitative and qualitative information on the social economy be collected in countries lacking official statistics?

Presenters will provide critical insights on how methodological hurdles can be addressed, by shedding light on the opportunities and limits of current research.

Chair: **Lars Hulgård**, USN, Norway and ESIC

Participants:

- **Danijel Baturina**, University of Zagreb, Croatia
- **Chiara Carini**, EURICSE, Italy
- **Giulia Galera**, EURICSE, Italy

Workshop B | Discussing different perspectives on social impact measurement

Rationale: This session will discuss the main challenges associated with the social impact measurement (SIM) of SE organisations. Perspectives on the field vary significantly at the international level. On the one extreme, critical studies argue that SIM has been given too much importance and that the methodologies copied from conventional business sector/escalators and incubators and those that only focus on reporting to funding bodies are not suited for SE organisations, which often find themselves trapped in costly methodologies that clash with their nature. On the other extreme are positioned stakeholders that believe SE organisations as a policy priority will disappear altogether if they don't have their social impact measured. Based on this approach, SIM is expected to define, quantify and measure whatever any type of organisation does.

Starting from a critical discussion of the current techniques used to measure social impact, presenters will shed light on different perspectives in the field and outline future research directions.

Chair: **Benjamin Huybrechts**, IESEG, France

Participants:

- **Ericka Costa**, University of Trento, Italy
- **Lucas Olmedo, Mary O'Shaughnessy and Flora Seddon**, University College Cork, Ireland
- **Francesca Petrella**, LEST - Aix-Marseille University, France

16:30 – 17:00 *Coffee break*

17:00 – 18:30 Group thinking session I | Research project round

Rationale: Starting from the findings of selected ongoing research projects, presenters will exchange their views with PhD students and ECRs. Participants will be free to join the group they prefer based on their research interests to create synergies and connections with more experienced scholars.

Key discussion topics include the development of regenerative food systems, the social economy in remote areas, the role of cultural and creative industries in non-urban areas, the role of energy cooperatives and communities, and the twin transition in cooperatives.

Participants:

- A. **Francesca Forno**, University of Trento, Italy – Scaling Urban Regenerative Food Systems in Transition (SURFIT) <https://socioecologico.com/2023/11/09/surfit-scaling-urban-regenerative-food-systems-in-transition/>
- B. **Jacopo Sforzi**, Euricse, Italy – Enhancing Social Innovation in Rural Areas (ESIRA) <https://www.esira.eu>
- C. **Natalia Magnani and Aurore Dudka**, University of Trento, Italy – REVEDH on the role of energy cooperatives and energy communities in the management of the flexibility of energetic demand
- D. **Eddi Fontanari**, Euricse, Italy – Digital and ecological transition in cooperatives in North East Italy: trajectories, drivers and sustainability
- E. **Nicole Göler von Ravensburg**, Frankfurt UAS, Germany – Urban resilience: social enterprises and non-profit organizations as service providers and infrastructure for civic engagement in African mega-cities
- F. **Danijel Baturina**, University of Zagreb, Croatia and **Giulia Galera**, Euricse, Italy – B-WISE. Skills for the future: WISEs ready!
- G. **Malin Gawell**, Södertörns Högskola, Sweden – Fostering (social) innovation in Rwanda – a transdisciplinary approach to development and research. A collaboration between Södertörn University and University of Rwanda.

18:30 – 21:00 *Buffet dinner*

Introduction to the mentoring initiative by PhD Committee

Tuesday, July 2nd

08:30 – 10:30 Study visit | Cooperativa la Rete

La Rete is a social cooperative that has been supporting people with disabilities and their families with a view to improve their quality of life since 1988. La Rete considers the community a key place for enhancing social inclusion.

It activates virtuous synergies in the local economic and social fabric and is distinguished by a strong spirit of innovation and experimentation. La Rete designs individualised services reflecting people's life histories, and supports the joint work of professional educators and volunteers in a 'togetherness' that generates social value.

Web site: <https://la-rete.mailchimpsites.com>

11:00 – 13:00 Plenary session I | *In memoriam* Carlo Borzaga

Rationale: Carlo Borzaga played a key role in developing the concept of social enterprise as an institution with its own recognised economic and social role. His intellectual contribution has been decisive in exploring social enterprises as organisations emerging mainly from below, thanks to civil society mobilisation. In his long career, Carlo Borzaga scrutinised the determinants of social enterprises and their founding features, which explain their added value in tackling a broad set of social and societal challenges. Through his longstanding and passionate work, Carlo Borzaga played a key role in shaping social enterprise as a critical research theme driven by a critique of the market economy.

As invited keynote speaker to this session, Lorenzo Sacconi will review the key scientific contributions of Carlo Borzaga and EMES scholars, who have been inspired by his studies throughout their careers, will enrich the discussion by shedding light on key aspects of Carlo Borzaga's scholarly work.

Participants will then be invited to engage in a Q&A session to reflect on how to fill gaps in social enterprise research, given the aim of better understanding how to fully harness the potential of social enterprise to improve well-being, tackle social exclusion, fight against environmental degradation and support the creation of a better world on a wide scale.

Chair: Mary O'Shaughnessy, University College Cork, Ireland

Speaker: Lorenzo Sacconi, University of Milan, La Statale, Italy

Discussants:

- Lars Hulgård, USN, Norway and ESIC
- Francesca Petrella, LEST - Aix-Marseille University, France

13:00- 14:30 Lunch

14:30 – 16:30 **Parallel work groups - SESSION III**

16:30 – 17:00 Coffee break

17:00 – 18:30

Group thinking session II | Enhancing wellbeing in academia. Possible hurdles, challenges and strategies

Rationale: Working in academia implies a high level of stress, which may have a negative impact on the well-being and mental health of PhDs and ECRs. Besides extreme situations of academic mobbing and sexual harassment, pressure is generated by job insecurity and strong competition amongst peers to win projects and publish in high-impact factor journals.

This group thinking session is meant to create a space for discussion open to the participation of experienced and early career researchers on how to protect one's mental health, improve well-being, and achieve and maintain a good work-life balance when working in academia. Personal testimonials from researchers at different stages of their careers will be more than welcome.

Chair: Nicole Göler von Ravensburg, Frankfurt UAS, Germany

Participants:

- **Matteo Borzaga**, University of Trento, Italy
- **Franco Fraccaroli**, University of Trento, Italy
- **Danijel Baturina**, University of Zagreb, Croatia
- **Marina Novikova**, Leibniz Institute of Ecological, Urban and Regional Development, Germany

18:30 – 19:00 **EMES PhD Network meeting**

19:00 – 21:00 Buffet dinner

Wednesday, July 3rd

08:30 – 10:30 **Parallel work groups - SESSION IV**

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break

11:00 – 12:30 **Parallel workshops (II) | Theoretical approaches to investigate the SE field**

Workshop A | Looking beyond Western frameworks: theoretical and conceptual approaches from the Global South on the SE

Rationale: Most research on the SE originates from the Global North, often obfuscating alternative voices that are present and alive in many contexts of the Global South. In these contexts, SE experiences are often associated with informal economies, but this represents only a partial view that leaves the epistemological, theoretical and empirical richness of this phenomenon aside.

Thanks to the contribution of the EMES ECRs group, participants will be invited to “decolonise” their views on SE by exploring and giving value to indigenous worldviews that are reflected in how local communities organize their socio-economic activities all over the non-western world. Decolonial approaches to SE will be illustrated in general and with a reflection on decolonial approaches particularly by drawing on examples from Latin American and African countries.

Chair: Michela Giovannini, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy

Participants:

- **Sergio Páramo Ortiz**, Maastricht University, The Netherlands
- **María José Ruiz**, UCL, Belgium
- **Kerryn Krige**, London School of Economics, UK

Workshop B | New theoretical approaches to tackle new social and societal challenges. Reflecting on the role, potential and limitations of current studies on social enterprises

Rationale: Over the past decades, different theoretical attempts have been made by social scientists to explain the upsurge and consolidation of the social enterprise, a type of enterprise that is based on features that would, at first glance, be considered flaws in a mainstream business model.

However, a comprehensive theory that can explain the rationale of social enterprises has yet to be developed. Faced with increasing inequalities, mounting social exclusion and contemporary environmental problems, such as climate change, loss of biodiversity, and resource depletion, a growing number of scholars has started to apply new lenses to analyse social enterprises, which draw on the bridging of diverse theoretical frameworks.

By stimulating a critical reflection on main achievements and limits of current research, this workshop will promote a critical discussion on innovative theoretical approaches that are being applied to social enterprises, including the multilevel perspective and transition studies, practice theory and multi-level perspective, and the theory of complexity.

Chair: **Francesca Petrella**, LEST - Aix-Marseille University, France

Participants:

- **Francesca Forno**, University of Trento, Italy
- **Anaïs Perilleux**, UCL, Belgium
- **Ermanno Tortia**, University of Trento, Italy

12:30- 14:00 *Lunch*

14:00 – 16:00

Parallel workshops (III) | Strategies for stakeholders' engagement in research, education and training

Workshop A | Transdisciplinary Action Research: Experimenting with Living Labs

Rationale: The rationale for this workshop is rooted in expanding participants' knowledge of Participatory Action Research (PAR) and engaging them in the practice of the Living Lab methodology. A Living Lab is characterized by a qualitative quasi-experimental approach where researchers and participants collaborate to address "wicked problems" — complex challenges lacking clear solutions or boundaries. This methodology aims to revitalize social science by emphasizing actionable outcomes that positively impact communities.

This session will encourage the active involvement of participants and focus on conducting living labs at the local/urban level, with particular emphasis on promoting sustainable cities and communities.

Chair: **Malin Gawell**, Södertörns Högskola, Sweden

Facilitator: **Gaia Maronilli**, Municipality of Trento/SURFIT Project

Discussant: **Alice dal Gobbo**, University of Trento, Italy

Workshop B | Education and training for transformative action

Rationale: As social enterprise and the social economy are becoming a consolidated field for research, practice and policymaking, we are witnessing a boom in training programmes both in higher education and also in long-life learning and primary and secondary school levels. Several platforms, networks, and initiatives are “boosting” SE teaching, and we see an increasing number of universities embracing SE teaching at BA levels but particularly at MA level, both for students and practitioners.

This workshop will feature some innovative teaching initiatives combining research and practice to enrich their transformative dimension. How do we involve stakeholders effectively beyond counted appearances in the program? How can our programmes contribute to the initiatives that we feature, avoiding extractivism in our teaching practice

and giving back to the SE ecosystem? We will be able to identify essential elements to consider when designing a well-rounded teaching programme and learn how to nurture a community of support that can enrich your teaching experience for you and your students.

Chair: Rocío Nogales-Muriel, EMES

Participants:

- **Nevena Radoynovska**, Emlyon Business School, France
- **Millán Diaz Foncea**, University of Zaragoza, Spain
- **Harri Kostilainen**, Diaconia University of Applied Sciences, Finland and ESIC
- **Richard Lang**, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy

Discussant: Lars Hulgård, USN, Norway and ESIC

16:00 – 16:30 Coffee break (*Sponsored by SAMS*)

16:30 – 18:30 Parallel work groups - SESSION V

20:00 - 23:00 Gala dinner

Kaire social enterprise | <https://kaioresrl.it>

Thursday, July 4th

9:00 – 10:30

Parallel workshops | Strategies for stakeholders' engagement in research, education and training (II)

Workshop A | Potentials and challenges in promoting a bottom-up doughnut economy framework: the case of South Tyrol, Italy

Rationale: This workshop aims to expand participants' knowledge on the Doughnut Economy (DE), a concept developed by Kate Raworth's (2017) which proposes a vision of the economy that is driven by social-ecological purposes, rather than profit maximisation and economic growth. The starting assumption of this framework is that the unlimited expansion of production and consumption (measured as GDP) is impossible on a finite planet; prosperity for humanity ought to be conversely achieved within the means of the planet.

Participants will be introduced to an attempt to define and promote a degrowth doughnut from the bottom up that should help contrast the dominant economic narratives in South Tyrol, a small autonomous province in Italy. This effort is led by Climate Action South Tyrol, a large alliance of grassroots organisations that promote climate neutrality, climate resiliency and a just society. Participants will discuss the status quo and potential strategies on how to build momentum for the much-needed system change within the boundaries of this province.

Chair: Mary O'Shaughnessy, UCC, Ireland

Speaker: David Hofmann, Stony Brook University New York and MIT, USA

Discussant: Marina Novikova, Leibniz Institute of Ecological, Urban and Regional Development, Germany

Workshop B | European Social Innovation Campus (ESIC) project

Rationale: This workshop, organised under the European Social Innovation Campus (ESIC) project – the Erasmus Plus Blueprint program, will bring together key partners of this innovation-focused initiative. It will be a unique opportunity for participants in the summer school to learn about this project aimed at identifying and addressing skills gaps in the social economy, developing competencies at different levels of education and learning opportunities to match the needs of different emerging occupational profiles. Critical perspectives will be welcome to stimulate a fruitful discussion with researchers engaged in studies on skills development, education and training for the SE field.

Chair: Ilana Gotz, EURICSE and ESIC

Participants:

- **Elena Badeanschi**, Federazione Trentina delle Cooperative & ESIC
- **Lars Hulgård**, USN, Norway and ESIC
- **Harri Kostilainen**, Diaconia University of Applied Sciences, Finland & ESIC
- **Hilde Svrljuga Sætre**, USN, Norway and ESIC

- **Brams Oers**, Odisee University of Applied Sciences and ESIC

Discussant: **Sergio Páramo Ortiz**, Maastricht University

10:30 – 11:00 *Coffee break*

11:00 – 12:30

**Closing Round Table | New avenues for transdisciplinary research:
discussion forum among practitioners and researchers**

Rationale: The final roundtable discussion will bring together researchers and actors active at the EU and national level, representing different families and/or domains of engagement of social economy organisations. Participants will reflect on how to unlock the potential of the social economy through a transdisciplinary research approach based on the active engagement of stakeholders throughout the whole research process.

This session aims to jointly identify pressing research issues that need to be addressed to fully valorise the contribution of the social economy to improve wellbeing, tackle social exclusion, and face the multiple social and societal challenges ahead.

Chair: **Gianluca Salvatori**, EURICSE and ESIC

Participants:

- **Sara Capuzzo**, ènostra, Italy
- **Giulia Galera**, EURICSE, Italy
- **Francesca Gennai**, Consolida, Italy
- **Kai Roland Green**, Aarhus University, Denmark
- **Piera Lepore**, Idee in Rete, Italy
- **Manuela Paulmichl**, Cooperative Office, Autonomous Province of Bolzano, Italy

12:30 – 13:30

**DIPLOMA CEREMONY, COLLECTIVE EVALUATION OF THE TRAINING
SCHOOL AND CLOSING GREETINGS**

- **Francesca Petrella**, LEST - Aix-Marseille University, France
- **Gianluca Salvatori**, EURICSE and ESIC
- **Niina Karvinen**, Diaconia University and ESIC project
- **Francesca Forno**, University of Trento, Italy

13:30 – 14:30 *Take away lunch and end of the Training School activities*

II. SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

	Sunday, June 30 th	Monday, July 1 st	Tuesday, July 2 nd	Wednesday, July 3 rd	Thursday, July 4 th
8:30		Opening session	Study visit: Cooperativa la Rete	Parallel work groups (IV)	Parallel workshops (IV): Strategies for stakeholders’ engagement A/ Doughnut economy framework in South Tyrol, IT B/ ESIC project
9:30		Parallel work groups (I)			
10:30			(Return to 9ETS facilities)	Coffee break	Coffee break
11:30		Coffee break	Plenary session: In memoriam Carlo Borzaga	Parallel workshops (II): Theoretical approaches to investigate the SE field A/ Beyond Western frameworks B/ New theoretical approaches	Closing Round Table: New avenues for transdisciplinary research
12:30		Parallel work groups (II)		Buffet lunch	
13:30		Buffet lunch	Buffet lunch		Take away lunch [End of the Training School activities]
14:30			Parallel workshops (I): Methods to analyse the SE field A/ Social Economy from a comparative perspective B/ Social impact measurement	Parallel work groups (III)	
15:30			Coffee break (Sponsored by SAMS)		
16:30		Coffee break	Coffee break	Parallel work groups (V)	
17:30		Arrival and greeting	Group thinking session (I): Research project round		Group thinking session (II): Enhancing wellbeing in academia
18:30	Introduction round	Buffet dinner	EMES PhD Network meeting		
19:30	Welcome cocktail		Introduction to the mentoring initiative by PhD Committee	Buffet dinner (19:00-21:00)	Gala dinner (20:00-23:00)
20:30					

III. FACULTY MEMBERS

The 9th EMES International Training School will include well-known professors from recognised research centres covering a wide spectrum of research themes, and this multi-disciplinary approach will represent a major strength for the participants.

1. Matteo Borzaga, University of Trento, Italy
2. Ericka Costa, University of Trento, Italy
3. Alice Dal Gobbo, University of Trento, Italy
4. Millán Díaz Foncea, University of Zaragoza, Spain
5. Francesca Forno, University of Trento, Italy
6. Giulia Galera, EURICSE, Italy
7. Malin Gawell, Södertörns Högskola, Sweden
8. Michela Giovannini, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy
9. Nicole Göler von Ravensburg, Frankfurt UAS, Germany
10. David Hofmann, Stony Brook University New York and Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA
11. Lars Hulgård, University of South-Eastern Norway, Norway
12. Harri Kostilainen, Diaconia University of Applied Sciences, Finland
13. Benjamin Huybrechts, IESEG, France
14. Richard Lang, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy
15. Natalia Magnani, University of Trento, Italy
16. Anaïs Perilleux, Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium,
17. Francesca Petrella, LEST - Aix-Marseille University, France
18. Mary O'Shaughnessy, University College Cork, Ireland
19. Nevena Radoynovska, Emlyon Business School, France
20. Hilde Svrljuga Sætre, University of South-Eastern Norway, Norway
21. Jacopo Sforzi, EURICSE, Italy
22. Ermanno Tortia, University of Trento, Italy

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